

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B67B7/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B67B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 955 264 A (R. BRUCART PUIG ET AL.) 10 November 1999 (1999-11-10)	1,2,5,6, 8,10
Y	the whole document	11-15
Y	EP 0 041 026 A (A. DEJOUX ET AL.) 2 December 1981 (1981-12-02) cited in the application page 2, line 6 - line 13 figure 1	11
Y	EP 0 748 761 A (F. CELLINI) 18 December 1996 (1996-12-18) abstract; figures 2a,2b	12-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

08/03/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Smolders, R

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0955264	A	10-11-1999	ES 2152816 A1	01-02-2001
			DE 69903088 D1	31-10-2002
			DE 69903088 T2	18-06-2003
			EP 0955264 A1	10-11-1999
			US 6116116 A	12-09-2000
EP 0041026	A	02-12-1981	FR 2482940 A1	27-11-1981
			EP 0041026 A1	02-12-1981
			US 4437359 A	20-03-1984
EP 0748761	A	18-12-1996	IT UD950115 A1	16-12-1996
			AT 185128 T	15-10-1999
			AU 699842 B2	17-12-1998
			AU 5596096 A	02-01-1997
			CA 2178890 A1	16-12-1996
			DE 69604450 D1	04-11-1999
			DE 69604450 T2	16-03-2000
			DK 748761 T3	20-12-1999
			EP 0748761 A1	18-12-1996
			ES 2139984 T3	16-02-2000
			US 5887305 A	30-03-1999
			ZA 9604959 A	08-01-1997